

APPENDIX IV

**GRANT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE,
TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
AND
[GRANTEE NAME]**

This Grant, by and between the State of Tennessee, Tennessee Higher Education Commission, hereinafter referred to as the 'State' and [GRANTEE LEGAL ENTITY NAME], hereinafter referred to as the "Grantee," is for the provision of the Improving Teacher Quality Grant Program, as further defined in the "SCOPE OF SERVICES."

The Grantee is a State of Tennessee institution of higher education.

A. SCOPE OF SERVICES:

- A.1. Attachment A affixed to and as part of this agreement details the activities to be performed in support of the Improving Teacher Quality Grant Program.

B. GRANT TERM:

- B.1. Grant Term. This Grant shall be effective for the period commencing on January 12, 2007 and ending on December 31, 2007. The State shall have no obligation for services rendered by the Grantee which are not performed within the specified period.

C. PAYMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- C.1. Maximum Liability. In no event shall the maximum liability of the State under this Grant exceed [WRITTEN DOLLAR AMOUNT] (\$[NUMBER AMOUNT]). The Grant Budget, attached and incorporated herein as a part of this Grant as Attachment B, shall constitute the maximum amount due the Grantee for the service and all of the Grantee's obligations hereunder. The Grant Budget line items include, but are not limited to, all applicable taxes, fees, overhead, and all other direct and indirect costs incurred or to be incurred by the Grantee.
- C.2. Compensation Firm. The maximum liability of the State is not subject to escalation for any reason unless amended. The grant budget amounts are firm for the duration of the grant contract and are not subject to escalation for any reason unless amended, except as provided in Section C.5.
- C.3. Payment Methodology. The Grantee shall be compensated for actual, reasonable, and necessary costs based upon the Grant Budget, not to exceed the maximum liability established in Section C.1. Upon progress toward the completion of the work, as described in Section A of this Grant, the Grantee shall submit invoices, in form and substance acceptable to the State with all of the necessary supporting documentation, prior to any reimbursement of allowable costs. Said invoices shall be submitted no more often than monthly. An invoice for reimbursement shall be prepared by the Grantee based upon estimated expenditures and applicable estimated revenues by line-item or by program category. At the end of each quarter, expenditure reports shall be prepared by the Grantee based upon actual costs incurred and the actual revenues received including grant revenue received from the State and adjust subsequent invoices accordingly.
- C.4. Travel Compensation. Reimbursement to the Grantee for travel, meals, or lodging shall be subject to amounts and limitations specified in the "State Comprehensive Travel Regulations," as they are amended from time to time and subject to the Grant Budget.
- C.5. Budget Line-items. Expenditures, reimbursements, and payments under this grant contract shall adhere to the grant budget. The Grantee may request revisions of grant budget line-items by letter, giving full details supporting such request, provided that such revisions do not increase the

total grant budget amount. Grant budget line-item revisions may not be made without prior, written approval of the State in which the terms of the approved revisions are explicitly set forth. Any increase in the total grant budget amount shall require a grant contract amendment.

- C.6. Disbursement Reconciliation and Close Out. The Grantee shall submit a final grant disbursement reconciliation report within thirty-one (31) days of the end of the Grant Contract. Said report shall be in form and substance acceptable to the State. The State will not be responsible for the payment of invoices that are submitted to the state after the final grant disbursement reconciliation report.

If total disbursements by the State pursuant to this grant contract exceed the amounts permitted by the Section C, Payment Terms and Conditions of this Grant Contract, the Grantee shall refund the difference to the State. The Grantee shall submit said refund with the final grant disbursement reconciliation report.

The Grantee must close out its accounting records at the end of the grant period in such a way that reimbursable expenditures and revenue collections are NOT carried forward.

- C.7. Indirect Cost. Should the Grantee request reimbursement for indirect cost, the Grantee must submit to the State a copy of the indirect cost rate approved by the cognizant federal agency and the State. The Grantee will be reimbursed for indirect cost in accordance with the approved indirect cost rate to amounts and limitations specified in the attached grant budget. Once the Grantee makes an election and treats a given cost as direct or indirect, it must apply that treatment consistently and may not change during the grant period. Any changes in the approved indirect cost rate must have prior approval of the cognizant federal agency and the State. If the indirect cost rate is provisional during the term of this agreement, once the rate becomes final, the Grantee agrees to remit any overpayment of funds to the State, and subject to the availability of funds the State agrees to remit any underpayment to the Grantee.
- C.8. Cost Allocation. If any part of the costs to be reimbursed under this grant contract are joint costs involving allocation to more than one program or activity, such costs shall be allocated and reported in accordance with the provisions of Department of Finance and Administration Policy Statement 03 or any amendments or revisions made to this policy statement during the grant contract period.
- C.9. Payment of Invoice. The payment of the invoice by the State shall not prejudice the State's right to object to or question any invoice or matter in relation thereto. Such payment by the State shall neither be construed as acceptance of any part of the work or service provided nor as an approval of any of the costs invoiced therein.
- C.10. Unallowable Costs. The Grantee's invoice shall be subject to reduction for amounts included in any invoice or payment theretofore made which are determined by the State, on the basis of audits or monitoring conducted in accordance with the terms of this Grant, not to constitute allowable costs.
- C.11. Deductions. Pursuant to ***Tennessee Code Annotated***, Section 9-4-604, the State is not to issue warrants for payments to persons who are in default to the State until such arrearages are paid. If applicable to the Grantee, the Grantee agrees that, should such an arrearage exist during the term of this Grant, the State shall have the right to deduct from payments due and owing to the Grantee any and all amounts as are necessary to satisfy the arrearage.

Should a dispute arise concerning payments due and owing to the Grantee under this Grant, the State reserves the right to withhold said disputed amounts pending final resolution of the dispute.

D. STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- D.1. Required Approvals. The State is not bound by this Grant until it is approved by the appropriate State officials in accordance with applicable Tennessee State laws and regulations.
- D.2. Modification and Amendment. This Grant may be modified only by a written amendment executed by all parties hereto and approved by the appropriate Tennessee State officials in accordance with applicable Tennessee State laws and regulations.
- D.3. Termination for Convenience. The State may terminate this grant contract without cause for any reason. Said termination shall not be deemed a Breach of Contract by the State. The State shall give the Grantee at least ninety (90) days written notice before the effective termination date. The Grantee shall be entitled to compensation for authorized expenditures and satisfactory services completed as of the termination date, but in no event shall the State be liable to the Grantee for compensation for any service which has not been rendered. The final decision as to the amount, for which the State is liable, shall be determined by the State. Should the State exercise this provision, the Grantee shall not have any right to any actual general, special, incidental, consequential, or any other damages whatsoever of any description or amount.
- D.4. Termination for Cause. If the Grantee fails to properly perform its obligations under this Grant in a timely or proper manner, or if the Grantee violates any terms of this Grant, the State shall have the right to immediately terminate the Grant and withhold payments in excess of fair compensation for completed services. Any liability of the Grantee to the State and third parties for any claims, losses, or costs arising out of or related to acts performed by the Grantee under this agreement shall be governed by the Tennessee Claims Commission Act, ***Tennessee Code Annotated***, Section 9-8-301, *et seq.*
- D.5. Subcontracting. The Grantee shall not assign this Grant or enter into a subcontract for any of the services performed under this Grant without obtaining the prior written approval of the State. If such subcontracts are approved by the State, they shall contain, at a minimum, sections of this Grant pertaining to Lobbying, Nondiscrimination, Public Accountability, and Public Notice (Sections D.6, D.7, D.8 and D.9). Notwithstanding any use of approved subcontractors, the Grantee shall be the prime contractor and shall be responsible for all work performed.
- D.6. Lobbying. The Grantee certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that:
- a. No federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the Grantee, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, and entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
 - b. If any funds other than federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the Grantee shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
 - c. The Grantee shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including sub-grants, subcontracts, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients of federally appropriated funds shall certify and disclose accordingly.

- D.7. Nondiscrimination. The Grantee hereby agrees, warrants, and assures that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of this Grant or in the employment practices of the Grantee on the grounds of disability, age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or any other classification protected by Federal, Tennessee State constitutional, or statutory law. The Grantee shall, upon request, show proof of such nondiscrimination and shall post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants, notices of nondiscrimination.
- D.8. Public Accountability. If this Grant involves the provision of services to citizens by the Grantee on behalf of the State, the Grantee agrees to establish a system through which recipients of services may present grievances about the operation of the service program, and the Grantee agrees to display a sign stating:
- "NOTICE: This Grantee is a recipient of taxpayer funding. If you observe an employee engaging in any activity which you consider to be illegal or improper, please call the State Comptroller's toll free hotline: 1-800-232-5454"
- Said sign shall be displayed in a prominent place, located near the passageway(s) through which the public enters in order to receive Grant supported services.
- D.9. Public Notice. All notices, informational pamphlets, press releases, research reports, signs, and similar public notices prepared and released by the Grantee shall include the statement, "This project is funded under an agreement with Tennessee Higher Education Commission." Any such notices by the Grantee shall be approved by the State.
- D.10. Licensure. The Grantee and its employees and all sub-grantees shall be licensed pursuant to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations and shall upon request provide proof of all licenses.
- D.11. Records. The Grantee shall maintain documentation for all charges against the State under this Grant. The books, records, and documents of the Grantee, insofar as they relate to work performed or money received under this Grant, shall be maintained for a period of three (3) full years from the date of the final payment and shall be subject to audit at any reasonable time and upon reasonable notice by the state agency, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives. The records shall be maintained in accordance with the *Accounting Manual for the Recipients of Grant Funds in the State of Tennessee*, published by the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury. The financial statements shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- D.12. Monitoring. The Grantee's activities conducted and records maintained pursuant to this Grant shall be subject to monitoring and evaluation by the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives.
- D.13. Progress Reports. The Grantee shall submit brief, periodic, progress reports to the State as requested.
- D.14. Procurement. If the other terms of this Grant allow reimbursement for the cost of goods, materials, supplies, equipment, or services, such procurement shall be made on a competitive basis, including the use of competitive bidding procedures, where practical. Further, if such reimbursement is to be made with funds derived wholly or partially from federal sources, the determination of cost shall be governed by and reimbursement shall be subject to the Grantee's compliance with applicable federal procurement requirements.

The Grantee shall obtain prior approval from the State before purchasing any equipment under this Grant.

- D.15. Strict Performance. Failure by any party to this Grant to insist in any one or more cases upon the strict performance of any of the terms, covenants, conditions, or provisions of this agreement shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of any such term, covenant, condition, or provision. No term or condition of this Grant shall be held to be waived, modified, or deleted except by a written amendment signed by the parties hereto.
- D.16. Independent Contractor. The parties hereto, in the performance of this Grant, shall not act as agents, employees, partners, joint venturers, or associates of one another. It is expressly acknowledged by the parties hereto that such parties are independent contracting entities and that nothing in this Grant shall be construed to create a principal/agent relationship or to allow either to exercise control or direction over the manner or method by which the other transacts its business affairs or provides its usual services.
- D.17. State Liability. The State shall have no liability except as specifically provided in this Grant.
- D.18. Force Majeure. The obligations of the parties to this Grant are subject to prevention by causes beyond the parties' control that could not be avoided by the exercise of due care including, but not limited to, acts of God, riots, wars, strikes, epidemics or any other similar cause.
- D.19. State and Federal Compliance. The Grantee shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations in the performance of this Grant.
- D.20. Governing Law. This Grant shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee. The Grantee agrees that it will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Tennessee in actions that may arise under this Grant. The Grantee acknowledges and agrees that any rights or claims against the State of Tennessee or its employees hereunder, and any remedies arising therefrom, shall be subject to and limited to those rights and remedies, if any, available under **Tennessee Code Annotated**, Sections 9-8-101 through 9-8-407.
- D.21. Completeness. This Grant is complete and contains the entire understanding between the parties relating to the subject matter contained herein, including all the terms and conditions of the parties' agreement. This Grant supersedes any and all prior understandings, representations, negotiations, and agreements between the parties relating hereto, whether written or oral.
- D.22. Severability. If any terms and conditions of this Grant are held to be invalid or unenforceable as a matter of law, the other terms and conditions hereof shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect. To this end, the terms and conditions of this Grant are declared severable.
- D.23. Headings. Section headings are for reference purposes only and shall not be construed as part of this Grant.

E. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- E.1. Conflicting Terms and Conditions. Should any of these special terms and conditions conflict with any other terms and conditions of this Grant, these special terms and conditions shall control.
- E.2. Communications and Contacts. All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications required or contemplated by this Grant shall be in writing and shall be made by facsimile transmission, by overnight courier service, or by first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the respective party at the appropriate facsimile number or address as set forth below or to such other party, facsimile number, or address as may be hereafter specified by written notice.

The State:

ALL GRANT AND BUDGETARY COMMUNICATION

William Arnold, Director of Interagency Grants and Research
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
Suite 1900, Parkway Towers, 404 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243
615-741-7572 Voice
615-741-6230 Fax

ALL REFUNDS or OTHER MONETARY RETURNS

Jim Vaden
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
Suite 1900, Parkway Towers, 404 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243
615-741-7575 Voice
615-741-6230 Fax

The Grantee:

[NAME AND TITLE OF GRANTEE CONTACT PERSON]
[GRANTEE NAME]
[ADDRESS]
[TELEPHONE NUMBER]
[FACSIMILE NUMBER]

All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications shall be considered effectively given as of the day of delivery; as of the date specified for overnight courier service delivery; as of three (3) business days after the date of mailing; or on the day the facsimile transmission is received mechanically by the telefax machine at the receiving location and receipt is confirmed telephonically by the sender if prior to 4:30 p.m. CST. Any communication by facsimile transmission shall also be sent by United States mail on the same date of the facsimile transmission.

- E.3. Subject to Funds Availability. The Grant is subject to the appropriation and availability of State and/or Federal funds. In the event that the funds are not appropriated or are otherwise unavailable, the State reserves the right to terminate the Grant upon written notice to the Grantee. Said termination shall not be deemed a breach of contract by the State. Upon receipt of the written notice, the Grantee shall cease all work associated with the Grant. Should such an event occur, the Grantee shall be entitled to compensation for all satisfactory and authorized services completed as of the termination date.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF:

[GRANTEE LEGAL ENTITY NAME]:

[NAME AND TITLE]

Date

TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION:

Richard G. Rhoda, Executive Director

Date

APPROVED:

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION:

M. D. Goetz, Jr., Commissioner

Date

COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY:

John G. Morgan, Comptroller

Date